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comprising a single hollow shaft having a central longitudinal axis, said hollow shaft having a truncated conical penetration head at its front end, and a flexible member at its rear end, said flexible member having a width in at least one dimension larger than the largest width of said hollow shaft and sufficiently flexible so as to be capable of deforming so as to conform to an angle of insertion of said rivet into the tissue and capable of deforming so as to conform to the surface of the tissue in which said rivet is inserted, said hollow shaft having a plurality of spaced, separate, flexible projections extending radially from said hollow shaft, at least one of said plurality of flexible projections capable of flexing toward said shaft when being inserted in the tissue, said shaft and said flexible member each having a radius measured from the central longitudinal axis of said shaft, each of said flexible projections having a height measured from a surface of said shaft, the sum of the height of one of said flexible projections and the radius of said shaft being greater than the radius of said flexible member.--

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claim 19 to further define Applicant's claimed invention and reduce the issues for appeal. Applicant submits that the amendment to claim 19 places the claims in better form for appeal by removing the Examiner's rejection of claims 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph since Applicant has substantially incorporated language proposed by the Examiner in the Office Action as having support in the specification. (See, paragraph 1 of the Office Action dated March 4, 1996).